

# SPRING TURKEY HUNTING

## STATEWIDE SEASON - MARCH 31-MAY 13, 2007

All Tennessee counties are open to wild turkey hunting excluding WMAs and refuges unless specifically listed.

## BAG LIMITS

One bearded turkey per day, not to exceed four per season. On WMAs and refuges, the bag limit is one bearded turkey per hunt, not to exceed two per season. Turkeys taken on all quota hunts are bonus birds and do not count toward the statewide bag limit. On WMAs open with the statewide seasons, the bag limit is one bearded turkey per day which counts toward the statewide bag limit of four per season.

## PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS

Turkeys harvested on a PHA count toward the statewide bag limit. The PHAs include Heartwood and Ataya (formerly Tackett Creek), which open with the statewide season in counties and portions of counties that are open to wild turkey hunting. A special permit must be obtained from the company owning the area.

## STATEWIDE YOUNG SPORTSMAN HUNT

**MARCH 24-25, 2007** (ages 6 through 16). Bag limit, 1 bearded bird which counts toward statewide bag. Each youth must be accompanied by a nonhunting adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device. who is not required to have a license. WMAs are not open unless listed as open with the statewide seasons.

## HUNTING HOURS

Thirty minutes before sunrise to sunset (unless otherwise listed).

## LEGAL HUNTING EQUIPMENT

- Shotguns and muzzleloading shotguns, 20 gauge or larger, loaded with No. 4 shot or smaller.
- Long bows, compound bows and crossbows using legal hunting arrows with broadheads.

## TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

As soon as you have killed a wild turkey, punch out the month and day on your Temporary Kill Tag (part of your Big Game license) then immediately attach the tag to the bird. Failing to do either of these things is a violation of the law and you may be given a citation for failure to properly tag a big game animal.

## CHECKING STATIONS

All turkeys harvested must be checked out at the nearest county checking station (or WMA checking station if it is in operation). The permanent kill tag, required for legal possession, and a new temporary tag will be issued at the checking station. All big game check stations will be open. For a complete list of check stations, visit [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org).

## PROHIBITED ACTS

- It is illegal to bait for turkeys. Possession of agricultural grain while turkey hunting is prohibited.
- Rifles and handguns are prohibited.
- Turkeys may not be shot or stalked from a boat in Dyer, Haywood, Lauderdale, Obion, Shelby or Tipton counties.
- Use or possession of electronic calls while turkey hunting is prohibited.
- Use of live decoys is prohibited. However, artificial and mounted decoys are permissible.
- Possession of ammunition loaded with shot larger than No. 4 while turkey hunting is prohibited.
- The use of any type of food to feed or attract wild turkeys on WMAs is prohibited.
- Calling or attempting to call wild turkeys using any means to mimic the sounds made by turkeys is prohibited on all WMAs from March 1 until the opening day of the spring turkey hunts on the WMA.
- A licensed turkey hunter, who has filled his bag limit or does not possess a valid permit for a quota hunt, may accompany another turkey hunter who has a valid permit (except on WMAs where prohibited) and assist him in calling, but may not have a gun or bow in his possession.

## SPRING TURKEY Q & A

- Q: I'm passionate about my spring turkey hunting. What exactly do these new spring turkey limits allow me to take?
- A: You are allowed four birds during the spring turkey season, only two of which can come from a WMA. For example: 1 from Alpine Mountain WMA (statewide season), 1 from Laurel Hill WMA (nonquota hunt), and 2 from the county = 4 total. That's it! If you get drawn for a Chuck Swan quota hunt you may harvest another. That's a bonus bird and does not count against the statewide bag of four.

## WMA HUNTS

The following WMAs and refuges are open with the statewide season (Mar. 31-May 13 and the Mar. 24-25 Young Sportsman Hunt). Bag limit, one bearded turkey per person, per day, not to exceed two per season (see Bag Limits, page 18).

<sup>a</sup> A nonquota WMA permit is not required.

<sup>b</sup> All hunters are required to register and obtain a free permit at the park headquarters (931) 858-2446.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Alpine Mountain                              | Jarrell Switch   |
| Arnold Hollow                                | John Tully   |
| Bark Camp Barrens                            | <b>Keyes-Harrison</b> <sup>a</sup>   |
| <b>Barkley</b> (Units I and II)              | Kyles Ford   |
| Bean Switch Refuge                           | Lick Creek   |
| Beaver Dam Creek                             | Lick Creek Bottoms   |
| Big Sandy ( <i>incl. Gin Creek</i> )         | Long Pond  |
| Bogota                                       | Maness Swamp Refuge  |
| <b>Bridgestone/Firestone</b>                 | Maple Springs  |
| <b>Browntown</b>                             | Mingo Swamp  |
| Buffalo Springs                              | MTSU   |
| <b>Camden</b> (Units I and II)               | Mt. Roosevelt <sup>a</sup>   |
| Cedar Hill Swamp <sup>a</sup>                | Moss Island  |
| Charlotte Ann Finnell                        | New Hope   |
| Neal   | Nolichucky   |
| <b>Cheatham Lake</b>                         | Normandy   |
| <b>Cheatham Lake Pardue</b>                  | North Cherokee   |
| Pond Refuge & Dyson                          | Obion River  |
| Ditch Refuge ( <i>boat access only</i> )     | Old Hickory ( <i>incl. Lock 5 Refuge, north of the Cumberland River only</i> ) |
| Chickamauga                                  | Owl Hollow Mill  |
| Chickasaw State Forest <sup>a</sup>          | Pea Ridge  |
| C. M. Gooch                                  | Percy Priest Units I & II  |
| Cold Creek Refuge                            | <b>Pickett State Forest</b> <sup>a</sup>                                       |
| <b>Cordell Hull</b>                          | <b>Rankin</b>  |
| <b>Cordell Hull Refuge</b>                   | Royal Blue   |
| Cove Creek                                   | Shelton Ferry  |
| Cummings Cove                                | Standing Stone State Forest <sup>a</sup>                                       |
| Cypress Pond Refuge                          | Sundquist  |
| Eagle Creek                                  | Tellico Lake ( <i>except McGhee-Carson and Niles Ferry Units</i> )             |
| Edgar Evins State Park <sup>a, b</sup>       | The Boils  |
| Ernest Rice                                  | Three Rivers   |
| Flintville Hatchery                          | Tie Camp   |
| Gallatin Steam Plant ( <i>archery only</i> ) | Tigrett  |
| Harmon Creek                                 | Tumbleweed   |
| <b>Haynes Bottom</b>                         | Watts Bar  |
| Henderson Island                             | West Sandy   |
| <b>Hiwassee Refuge</b>                       | White Lake Refuge  |
| Hick Hill                                    | White Oak  |
| <b>Hickory Flats</b>                         | Yanahli  |
| Hop-In Refuge                                |  |
| <b>Horns Bluff Refuge</b>                    |  |
| Jackson Swamp                                |  |

## NONQUOTA WMA HUNTS

On areas indicated by an asterisk (\*), hunters must check in before and check out after the hunt. Bag limit, one bearded turkey per person, per hunt, not to exceed two per season (except as noted). See Bag limits, page 18.

**\*AEDC** - Four 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 13-15, 27-29, and May 4-6.

**Bear Hollow Mountain** - Seven 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29, May 4-6, 11-13. **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24-25.

**\*Catoosa** - Six 3-day hunts. Apr. 6-8, 14-15, 17-19, 24-26, 27-29, May 1-3. **Young Sportsman hunt** - Apr. 21-22.

**\*Cheatham** - Five hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 6-8, 13-15, 18-22, 26-29. **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24-25.

**Cordell Hull** - Wheelchair-bound Only Hunting Zone (that portion of Cordell Hull WMA known as the Old Roaring Fork Campground, as posted). Mar. 31-May 13. Wheelchair-bound hunters only. Bag limit, two turkeys, either sex, per season.

**Fall Creek Falls State Park** (archery only) - Apr. 7-16. All hunters are required to register and obtain a free permit at the park headquarters (423) 881-5298.

**Foothills** - Mar. 31-May 13. **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24-25.

**Fourth Fractional** (archery only) - Mar. 31-May 13.

**Kyker Bottoms** - All hunting is Young Sportsman (6-16 years of age). Same as statewide season. Each youth must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who may also hunt except on the Mar. 24-25 Young Sportsman hunt.

**\*Laurel Hill** - Six 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29, May 4-6.

**\*Meeman Shelby Forest SP and Natural Area/Eagle Lake Refuge** - **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24.

**Natchez Trace State Forest** - Apr. 16-29.

**North Chickamauga Creek (including Natural Area Unit)** - Open with statewide seasons except hunting allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only. Hunting ends at noon each day.

**Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge (South of the Cumberland River)** - Mar. 31-Apr. 1, Apr. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22. **Young Sportsman only. Boat access only.**

**\*Prentice Cooper State Forest** - Six 3-day hunts. Apr. 3-5, 6-8, 10-12, 19-21, 24-26, 27-29.

**South Cherokee** - Mar. 31-May 13. **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24-25.

**\*Williamsport** - Two 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 13-15.

**Wolf River** - **Young Sportsman hunt** - Mar. 24-25.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR WMA SPRING TURKEY QUOTA HUNTS PERMITS

You can obtain an instruction sheet at any TWRA license agent, TWRA regional office, or online at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org). The applications can only be processed by TWRA license agents, personnel at a TWRA regional office, or online at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org). If applying in person, remain until your application is processed to verify that the information is correct and to receive your receipt with your confirmation number. **DO NOT MAIL THE INSTRUCTION SHEET.** If you have questions, call 615-781-6621 during regular business hours (8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST). You may begin applying on **December 20, 2006**. The deadline is **February 14, 2007**. A computer drawing will be conducted to determine successful applicants. Permits are nontransferable and hunt dates may not be changed. Vacancy permits, if any, will be announced and sold on a first come, first served basis by TWRA license agents or online at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org). **Note:** LBL holds a separate drawing for LBL quota hunts. There will be no closures because of flooding and no refunds made.

## WMA SPRING TURKEY QUOTA HUNTS

Quota Big Game Permit required. **On areas indicated by an asterisk (\*), hunters must check in before and check out after the hunt.** There will be no closures because of flooding and no refunds will be made. Turkeys harvested on WMA quota hunts are bonus birds. The bag limit is listed on the permit.

**\*Chuck Swan** - Seven 3-day hunts. Mar. 29-31, Apr. 5-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28, May 3-5, 10-12. 125 hunter quota per hunt. Hunting ends at noon each day. Hunters must **be** at checking station by 1:00 p.m. Hunters must check in before the hunt and check out after the hunt.

**Holly Fork** - Mar. 24-25. 4 hunter quota. Youth special populations only, ages 6-16. Youth special populations are determined by the TWRA and TVA (i.e. life threatening medical condition, juvenile court trustee youth program). Youth must be accompanied by a **non-hunting** adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device.

**\*Meeman Shelby Forest SP and Natural Area/Eagle Lake Refuge** - Three 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 6-8, 13-15. 50 hunter quota per hunt. All hunters are required to register and obtain a free permit at Park headquarters (901) 876-5215. Successful hunters must check out at the nearest county check station.

**\*Natchez Trace SF** - Three 3-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Apr. 6-8, 13-15. 96 hunter quota per hunt (48 hunters N. of I-40 and 48 hunters S. of I-40). Hunters must sign in and out each day.

**Oak Ridge** - Two 2-day hunts. Mar. 31-Apr. 1, Apr. 14-15. 175 hunter quota per hunt. Hunting ends at noon daily and successful hunters must be at the checking station by 1 p.m. Scouting date for permit holders is Mar. 24, 6:00 a.m. to noon. Hunting area may be reduced and hunts may be cancelled for national security reasons.

**Wolf River** - Two 3-day hunts. Apr. 13-15 (25 hunter quota), Apr. 20-22 (30 hunter quota). Hunting ends at noon each day and successful hunters must check birds at Wolf River check station by 1 p.m.

**Yuchi Refuge at Smith Bend** - Five 3-day hunts. Mar. 30-Apr. 1, Apr. 13-15, 20-22, 24-26, May 1-3. 10 hunter quota per hunt. Hunting ends at noon (EST) each day. No access by boat. Walk in only.

